

Living Lab Profile - Central Germany/Switzerland

OLocation

The Living Lab Central is located cross boundary within northern Switzerland and south-west of Germany.

Forest Characteristics

Hardwood dominant forest with a beech content of approx. 40% followed by oak and ash



Current State

Small Forest owner in this region face climate induced droughts and insect pests which create management challenges especially for small forest owners.

Desired State

Forest management which focuses on the increase of climate resilience supported by payments for timber, biodiversity forests and carbon farming.

Forest Owner Characteristics



Number of forest owners

6000



% of private forest

21% Privately owned

43% Citizens' councils



Average ha

4 281 ha in total

0.7ha on average



Regional forest owner association

WaldBeider Basel Citizens' councils

Upscaling Potential

The LL Central representative is of the socio-economic conditions of large areas within Central Europe. With its high percentage of small forest owners, the Living Lab allows to study ownership fragmentation and the management strategies to address the disruptions from climate change.







Initiation Workshop Initiation World Living Lab Central - 01/03/2024



O Place

Therwil in Baselland, Switzerland



18 Participants from: Angenstein Forest District, Citizen Council Therwil, Department for Forest Basel, Forstkammer Baden-Württemberg, Swiss Federal Research Institute WSL, Uni Goettingen, Uni Freiburg, Waldeigentümerverband WaldBeiderBasel.

Topics

- Overview of the forest region, wood mobilization, community services and the forest service's catalogue
- Presentation of the forest chamber Baden-Württemberg
- Presentation of the Citizen Council forest strategy
- National and Cantonal contributions to forest conservation and for protection forests
- Available data resources for the forest area
- Educational visit with the Angenstein Forest District ranger

Q Key Points

The workshop brought together the research institutions, government bodies, small forest owners and the local forest owner organisations to explore the locally available resources to small forest owners. The main point of the meeting focused on the adaption to changing environments, payments for ecosystem services and the local forest data currently available.

Furthermore, the concept of forest management through citizen councils was highlighted as it is a special characteristic to the region. Specific local management such as the cooperation between the canton, the forest district operator and the forest owners were presented during a boots on the ground forest visit.

